

Mint of the United States,
Oct. 24. 1838.

Sir,

Your letter dated this day, making inquiries in regard to procuring small coins, is just received.

In reply I have to state that the regulations of the Mint require, that, to obtain Silver Coins, a deposit of Silver bullion, or foreign Silver Coins, should be made at the Mint; where, also, the Coins are paid in return, thus requiring the agency of some one at Philadelphia.

Such is the demand for small Silver Coins at present, that, I am sorry to say, you would be obliged to wait for them at least three weeks after the deposit had been made. Our Chief-Coiner wishes me to say, that a deposit of five-franc pieces, or of Mexican Dollars, could soonest be returned in American small coins.

Yours, very respectfully,

R. M. Patterson, Director,
for Gs. T. Downing,
Director's Clerk.

To,

Ira Smith, Esq.,
Burlington, N.J.